

Message Text

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11

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AEC-11 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 CIEP-02

COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 FEA-02 FPC-01 H-03 INR-10

INT-08 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 OMB-01 PM-07 RSC-01 SAM-01

SCI-06 SP-03 SS-20 STR-08 TRSE-00 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15

DRC-01 /169 W

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R 262240Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5329

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

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E.O. 11652 - N/A

TAGS: PINS, SOCI, ELAB, ETRN, ES

SUBJECT: NEW PETROLEUM PRICE INCREASES PROMPT TRANSPORT INDUSTRY
PROTESTS

REF: A) SAN SALVADOR A-180, DECEMBER 1973; B) SAN SALVADOR A-60,
APRIL, 1974

GUATEMALA ALSO FOR ROCAP

1. GOES ON APRIL 20 AUTHORIZED SECOND SHARP INCREASE IN RETAIL
PRICES FOR PETROLEUM PRODUCTS THIS YEAR WHICH HAS PUSHED PRE-
MIA GAS UP TO US \$1.00 A GALLON. THUS, GASOLINE HAS INCREASED
68 PERCENT AND DIESEL 39 PERCENT IN LAST FOUR MONTHS. LATEST
INCREASES HAVE PROMPTED PROTESTS FROM BUS AND TAX COMPANIES
AND DRIVERS, AS WELL AS SERVICE STATIONS, SOME OF WHOM HAVE
TALKED ABOUT PROTEST STRIKES OR WORK STOPPAGES. MOST SERIOUS
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PROBLEM WOULD COME FROM SUSPENSION OF BUS SERVICE WHOSE OWNERS

ARE DEMANDING FARE INCREASES.

2. IN RESPONSE, GOVERNMENT HAS SET UP MIXED GOVERNMENT-PRIVATE SECTOR COMMISSION TO STUDY PROBLEM AND ISSUE RECOMMENDATIONS BY MAY 10 AND BUS OWNERS HAVE AGREED TO AWAIT COMMISSION'S PROPOSALS. LABOR LEADERS OPPOSE BUS FARE INCREASES ALTHOUGH THEY PRIVATELY VIEW IT AS INEVITABLE AND MOST CONCLUDE THAT THEIR ONLY RECOURSE WILL BE TO PUSH FOR WAGE INCREASES. IT IS LIKELY THAT THE MAY DAY LABOR CELEBRATIONS WILL STRESS THIS THEME. SEE REF A B FOR DETAILS. CAMPBELL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DISPUTES, PETROLEUM PRODUCTION, AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY, PRICE TRENDS, LABOR UNION OFFICIALS, PROPOSALS (BID)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 APR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974SANSAS01662
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740100-0582
From: SAN SALVADOR
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740410/aaaaaiuh.tel
Line Count: 72
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A) SAN SALVADOR A-180, DECEMBER 1973, ; B) SAN SALVADOR A-60
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 SEP 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <06 FEB 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NEW PETROLEUM PRICE INCREASES PROMPT TRANSPORT INDUSTRY PROTESTS
TAGS: PINS, SOCI, ELAB, ETRN, ES
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005